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Testing Discovery's power-up system prelude to VAB rollover

▲ **Shuttle Update:** As **Discovery** continues to be processed for its launch planning window of May 12 to June 3, 2005, technicians progress with important orbiter power-up system testing. This testing is required prior to the vehicle rolling over to the VAB. Once in the VAB, the orbiter will be mated to its twin Solid Rocket Boosters and External Tank.

Checkout of the new Multi-functional Electronic Display System, or "glass cockpit," was successfully completed. Orbiter drag chute door instrumentation testing is complete. Closeout inspections and photos of the drag chute door continue. Main landing gear tire pressure strain gauge installation and monitoring system checkout are complete.

On **Atlantis**, final power-down work continues in the OPF prior to the scheduled power-up next week. During the extensive power-down period, technicians performed the Return to Flight modifications that included wiring installation for the External Tank separation camera, wing leading edge sensors and relay units, and the Orbiter Boom Sensor System.

Freon is scheduled to be added to the coolant loop today. Leak checks were successfully completed on water spray boiler No. 3 and it has been reinstalled on the vehicle. Each Water Spray Boiler cools a corresponding Auxiliary Power Unit's lube oil

system and hydraulic system by spraying water on its lines. Thermal Protection System blanket installation continues in the payload bay.

▲ **Space Club Awards Nov. 16:**

The National Space Club - Florida Committee is presenting the prestigious Harry Kolcum Memorial News and Communications Awards to this year's honorees George Diller and Todd Halverson. Diller is with NASA KSC Public Affairs, and he is frequently heard as the commentator for ELV and Space Shuttle launches. Halverson is with *Florida Today* and reports on the Space Program.

The award luncheon will be held Nov. 16 at the Radisson Resort at the Port. Help honor these two outstanding public affairs and space news communicators. To make a reservation, please contact Sandy Andre by Friday at 867-5194 or 917-9192. You can reach her by e-mail at sandre@cfl.rr.com or register online at www.nsefl.com. The cost is \$17 per person. Cancelled reservations must be received 48 hours prior to the event; payment accepted at the door.

■ **Aboard the ISS** — This week Commander Leroy Chiao and cosmonaut Salizhan Sharipov will carry out proficiency training in operating Canadarm2, the Space Station robotic arm. To practice working with the arm, the crew will maneuver the arm to provide camera views of an area of interest on the U.S. Lab module's

KSC's George Diller being honored by Space Club

exterior debris shielding where there may be a shadow or a dent in the shielding. On Friday the crew will operate the arm again to position its cameras in a prime viewing location for the relocation of the Soyuz by the crew later this month.

■ **Information, Please** — NASA is preparing a set of roadmaps that will form the foundation of the agency's strategic plan: "Strategic Roadmaps" that explore options and establish pathways to achieve NASA's strategic objectives, and "Capability Roadmaps" that recommend approaches to provide technical capabilities critical to NASA's future.

The NASA Advanced Planning and Integration Office Request for Information is soliciting contributions to the roadmap development. A public workshop to share innovative approaches is being held Nov. 30 in Washington. The registration and white paper submittal deadline is Nov. 16. You must register in advance and receive a confirmation of registration in order to attend the workshop. To register, go to <http://prod.nais.nasa.gov/cgi-bin/eps/synopsis.cgi?acqid=113190>.

■ **Did You Know?** In 1803, Luke Howard used Latin words to categorize clouds. Cirrus, which means "curl of hair," is used to describe high, wispy clouds that look like locks of hair.